

persist out of dedication to the cause that we must never permit anyone one who treats other human beings the way he has treated tens of thousands of human beings to escape justice, we will bring Saddam Hussein to justice. And in the meantime, his conviction on these charges may prove of benefit to our efforts to isolate him and his government, and to rally the support of other nations around the world to the effort to remove him from power.

I am pleased, Mr. President, that this resolution was agreed to unanimously, and hopeful that soon the machinery of international law will be applied as it was designed to label Saddam Hussein as the horrific murderer and torturer he is, recognition he richly deserves.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I express my strong support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 78, which would call on the President of the United States to work toward the establishment of the legal mechanisms, under the aegis of the United Nations, necessary for the prosecution of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein for crimes against humanity, including the infliction upon the people of Kuwait and his own Kurdish population of genocidal policies. The resolution further encourages that the President seek the funding required to support this effort.

Senator SPECTER is to be commended for taking the lead in this morally and legally essential exercise in holding Saddam Hussein accountable for a long history of brutality that places him squarely among the worst human rights offenders of the post-World War II era. While none of us are under any illusions about the nature of this individual, I nevertheless urge my colleagues to read the text of this resolution carefully. It is a concise, comprehensive list of human rights abuses and war crimes committed by the Iraqi leader against the neighboring country of Kuwait, which he invaded and upon which imposed a brutal occupation, and against the Kurdish occupation of northern Iraq. It reiterates the degree to which Saddam Hussein has willfully and repeatedly failed to comply with United Nations and other legal mandates pertaining to his treatment of those who have suffered the misfortune of falling under his grip and to the international inspection regimes to which he is subject.

The text of the resolution is self-explanatory, but even that omits mention of the incalculable acts of wanton cruelty Saddam Hussein, and his sons, has committed against the Iraqi people, in addition to actions against the country's Kurdish population. Such a discussion is beyond the purview of a resolution oriented towards holding Saddam accountable for war crimes. I mention this only to ensure that the fate of the Iraqi people is not forgotten. The purpose of S. Con. Res. 78 is to establish the legal framework for further isolating Saddam Hussein diplomatically and for working toward his removal from power. This is a resolu-

tion that may seem obvious and elementary in some respects, yet which reflects my colleague from Pennsylvania's astute grasp of the legal imperatives involved in pursuing far-ranging policies designed to bring down a ruthless and belligerent dictator.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business.

Under the previous order, the Senator from Utah, Mr. BENNETT, is recognized to speak for up to 45 minutes.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Montana, Mr. BURNS, the Senator from California, Mrs. BOXER, and the Senator from Pennsylvania, Mr. SPECTER, each be recognized for up to 3 minutes apiece, and that the time not count against my 45 minutes; that following the presentations of each of these three Senators, I be allowed to proceed with the 45 minutes as called for in the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I note the Senator from California is on the floor, and I suggest she be recognized first.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank the Senator from Utah for his kindness and ask unanimous consent that I have 4 minutes.

Mr. BENNETT. I have no objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGEL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Thank you very much.

NOMINATION OF JAMES C. HORMEL

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to urge the majority leader to schedule a vote on the nomination of James C. Hormel to be U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg. He has my strong support as well as the strong support of Senator FEINSTEIN, who has made an eloquent statement on the Senate floor on his behalf.

James Hormel is a successful businessman, a loving father, and a loving grandfather.

On October 29, 1997 before the Foreign Relations Committee, I introduced James Hormel for the position of Ambassador to Luxembourg. At that hearing, I spoke of his sharp mind, distinguished career and extensive knowledge of diplomacy, international relations and the business world. Like many of my colleagues, I believe that James Hormel was, and still is, clearly qualified for this position.

Almost five months later, this nomination still has not come to the Senate

floor for a vote. The full Senate has not even had the opportunity to debate the merits of Mr. Hormel's nomination. This is because a hold has been placed on the nomination by certain Senators—apparently because of James Hormel's sexual orientation.

I say, "apparently" because the arguments some have used to oppose Mr. Hormel do not ring true.

The main argument is that Mr. Hormel, through his generous history of giving, has donated funds to certain projects—a library collection and an educational video—that contain controversial content. These are not valid arguments.

First, it is my understanding that many of the books in question, which are found in the San Francisco Public Library, are also in the Library of Congress. Neither Congress nor James Hormel should be responsible for screening the subjects of books found in their libraries.

And, second, James Hormel had absolutely no input into the content of the educational video. If the content of this video is a valid reason for the Senate to place a hold on this nominee, it sets a dangerous precedent.

For instance, what if the next nominee that comes before the Senate has given money to his or her child's high school newspaper. And, what if that newspaper ran a controversial article about a particular Senator. Would the Senate then place a hold on that nomination? I don't think so. The holds are in place because James Hormel is gay.

Mr. President, I believe that the Senate should consider nominees based on their qualifications. If the Senate agrees with me, there should be no controversy over James Hormel's nomination.

James Hormel, of San Francisco, California, graduated from Swarthmore College and shortly thereafter earned his Juris Doctorate at the University of Chicago Law School. Mr. Hormel served for several years as the Dean of Students and Assistant Dean at the University of Chicago Law School. Since 1984, he has presided as Chairman of EQUIDEX, Inc., an investment firm based in San Francisco.

For the past 30 years, Mr. Hormel has been a dedicated philanthropist, generously working to support a wide range of worthy causes. For his unselfish acts of giving, he has received several awards and honors. In 1996, he was named Philanthropist of the Year by the Golden Gate Chapter of the National Society of Fundraising Executives. Other honors include the Golden Gate Business Association's Outstanding Leadership Award, the Silver Spur Award from the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association, the Public Service Citation from the University of Chicago Alumni Association, and many, many others.

On the local level, Mr. Hormel is an active member of the San Francisco community working with several important civic organizations. His current projects include the San Francisco